





Co-operatives UK member:  
Bristol Bike Project

# IMPACT

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Together, Co-operatives UK and you – our members – are helping to achieve the vision of building a better world through co-operation.

Our mission is to grow the co-operative economy through action to promote, develop and unite co-operative businesses across the UK.

Here's a snapshot of what we have achieved together in 2018...

# PROMOTE

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We are an authoritative, campaigning voice for co-ops, working with our members to raise awareness of the co-operative difference.

Our flagship campaign, Co-operatives Fortnight, generated a reach of 7.8 million, while the Co-op Economy report revealed that co-ops are twice as likely to survive the difficult first five years compared to other businesses.

We commissioned a YouGov survey which showed that, although confidence in big business is declining, consumers increasingly trust co-operatives.

Through our work leading the National Co-operative Development Strategy we launched Student Co-op Homes, securing national coverage in the Times and Financial Times, with more than 55,000 views of our video *No More Landlords*.



## New business survival



# 7.8m reach for



**CO-OPERATIVES  
FORTNIGHT**

23 June to 7 July 2018

**27k**  
social media  
followers



# 30,000

votes cast in  
Co-op of the  
Year Awards



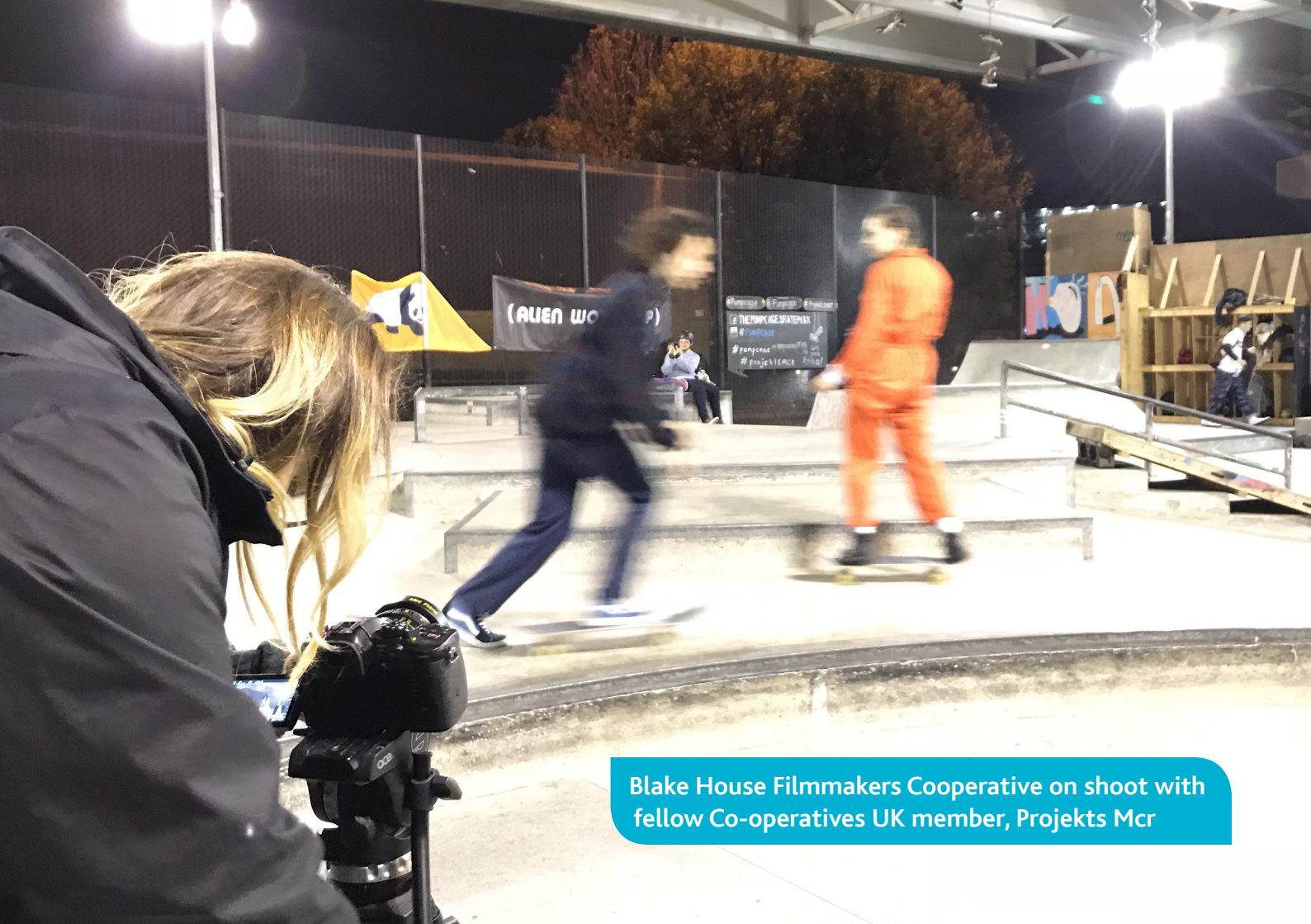
6 out of  
10 people  
**TRUST**  
co-ops



# 457

members  
joined us to  
campaign for co-ops

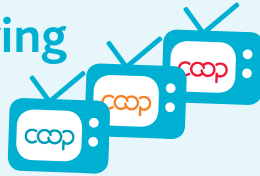




Blake House Filmmakers Cooperative on shoot with fellow Co-operatives UK member, Projekts Mcr

# 200,000

views of films featuring  
Co-operatives UK  
members



# 13 million



members  
of co-ops  
in the UK

# 3,000



newsletter  
subscribers

# 1

new national body, Student  
Co-op Homes, as featured in  
**THE**  **TIMES**



*"The co-operative model of business was one largely associated with farmers, grocery stores and credit unions. Today in Britain a new breed of enterprises are breathing life into the movement."*

The Financial Times

# DEVELOP

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We are the place where co-ops find the help they need and this year secured additional funding from The Co-operative Bank to extend co-op support through our programme, The Hive, until 2020.

The Hive helped co-ops raise £2.5m of finance through community shares in 2018. We also awarded the 100th Community Shares Mark to Eden-Rose Community, an organisation benefiting people with life-limiting conditions.

We have ramped up our work with the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network to support local co-op development – and with Stir to Action to support the UK's first platform co-ops.

With more co-ops accessing our governance, HR and legal advice than ever – and members benefiting from initiatives including our first mock tribunal – we are helping develop a growing and sustainable sector.

We provided professional advice and support to



members



Enhanced support  
for 138 members  
through **HR** and  
**Contact** packages

8 new  
platform  
co-ops  
supported



Community  
Shares  
Mark



new co-ops  
registered

**+160**

co-ops supported  
through The Hive





Co-operatives UK member:  
North Kensington Community Energy

Picture credit: Dave Fuller, Repowering



**23 Co-operative  
Councils Innovation  
Network members**

**126 HR  
professionals  
advanced their  
skills at our first  
mock tribunal**

**5,000+  
online  
resources  
downloaded**



**£1m+ awarded  
to community  
businesses through  
Booster programme**



***"The support we received from the  
Co-operatives UK team was second to none."***  
**North Kensington Community Energy**

# UNITE

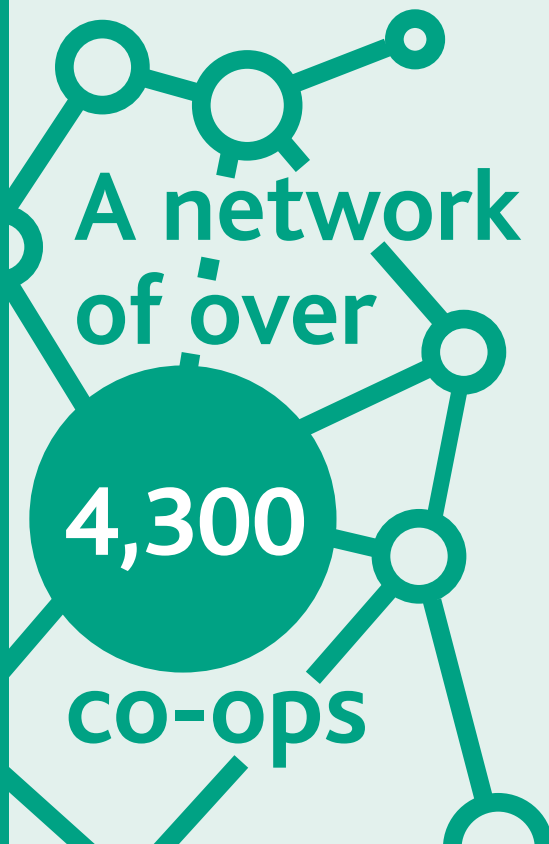
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Our membership – your network – continues to grow with 801 members and a further 3,500 co-ops represented by federal members, including our newest federal, Community Leisure UK.

We take our role of uniting the wonderfully diverse co-op movement seriously and this year held a record number of events, meetings, conferences and training sessions – attended by more than 1,300 delegates who rated them highly.

Congress, our annual conference for co-ops, tackled issues as diverse as co-operative housing and the gig economy. Our flagship training and development event, Practitioners Forum, featured 29 speakers and an inspiring keynote speech delivered by cross-bench peer Lord Victor Adebawale.

We continue to consult with members to shape our work and this year live-streamed our AGM to enable more members to participate.



96% delegate  
satisfaction  
rate



112 members  
of Community  
Leisure UK



1<sup>st</sup>



live streamed  
annual  
general  
meeting



events



1,300  
delegates

Shared knowledge with  
+300 co-ops internationally





Co-operatives UK member:  
Lupine Adventure Co-operative



*"We have a unique opportunity to reshape both young co-operators and the student housing sector and the momentum you have provided will allow us to seize that opportunity with both hands."*  
Student Co-operative Homes

Co-operatives UK  
staff attended

★ 106 ★

external events  
to spread the  
co-op message  
far and wide



# 86% member retention rate



# 550

co-ops fed into the  
National Co-operative  
Development Strategy



# TOGETHER

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Speaking with a strong collective voice is key to our lobbying and policy success. When we act together we legitimise our message and make more of an impact. In 2018, thanks to member involvement, we celebrated a number of policy wins.

We influenced farming policy with the creation of a £10m collaboration fund and safeguarded farmers' ability to co-operate through amendments to Brexit legislation.

We also secured a commitment from government to review co-op law and won new support for community co-ops in the Civil Society Strategy.

We are now lobbying for co-ops as government designs the UK's replacement for EU funds. As we move into 2019 we will campaign for more government spending on programmes which broaden ownership in the economy.



## £10m

## farmer collaboration



## fund

Lobbying on  
behalf of 694  
housing co-ops



Influencing  
new Civil  
Society  
Strategy



*"Co-operatives UK's work in representing  
our co-op's interests as government changes  
legislation and decides policy has been, and  
continues to be, absolutely crucial."*

Camgrain

1

commitment from  
government to review  
society legislation



# YOUR CO-OP

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Just like your co-operative, Co-operatives UK is owned by its members.

To help the co-operative movement thrive, we need your participation.

There are many ways your co-op can benefit from being a part of the UK's growing network of co-operative enterprises.

You can access specialist advice and support. You can help shape and drive our campaigns. You can also take advantage of unique member offers and discounted events and training.

Now is the time to make the most of membership.



# Make the most of membership:

## Advice and specialist support

- Online resources to help run your co-operative including factsheets, films and in-depth guides
- A range of training courses covering everything from start-ups to board development
- Discounted services and consultancy from industry leading co-operative governance, membership and HR professionals

**Ring 0161 2171751 [uk.coop/advice](http://uk.coop/advice)**

## A unique network

- Attend local networking, study visits and best practice-sharing events
- Priority booking and 30% discount on national conferences and professional development
- Benefit from unique member offers and promote your own offer to thousands of co-ops

**Ring 0161 2141786 [uk.coop/membership](http://uk.coop/membership)**

## Campaigns and advocacy

- Feed into our policy and campaigning work to influence decision-makers
- Access materials and resources to help tell your co-op's story to staff, members and the public
- Take part and influence our public profile raising of co-ops and the co-operative business model

**Ring 0161 2141775 [uk.coop/policy](http://uk.coop/policy)**

## Keep up to date

- Sign up for newsletters with information on the latest co-op resources, training, offers and more at [www.uk.coop/email](http://www.uk.coop/email)
- For regular updates follow [@cooperativesuk](https://twitter.com/cooperativesuk) on Twitter and find us on Facebook and YouTube
- Attend our AGM and influence how YOUR co-op operates: [www.uk.coop/AGM](http://www.uk.coop/AGM)

# *Thousands of businesses, one network*

Co-operatives UK is the network for Britain's thousands of co-operatives. We work together to promote, develop and unite member-owned businesses across the economy.

From high street retailers to community owned pubs, fan owned football clubs to farmer controlled businesses, co-operatives are everywhere and together they are worth £36 billion to the British economy.

[www.uk.coop](http://www.uk.coop)

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